

24TH
ANNUAL

RALEIGH

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ARTS





Honoring **Lifetime** **Achievement** in the Arts

Capital Bank

Charles “Chuck” Davis

Susan Spurlin Newberry

Lucy Daniels

Lenard D. Moore

Jeffery H. Richardson

Ceremony Host

Tift Merritt began her career as a singer-songwriter and recording artist in Raleigh and Chapel Hill. Her 2002 debut album, *Bramble Rose*, received high praise, including its selection by Time magazine as one of the top 10 CDs of the year. Publishing in the rock, country and soul genres, Ms. Merritt released her second album, *Tambourine*, in 2005, which was nominated for a Grammy award. Since then, she has released a live album, *Home Is Loud* and her newest album, *Another Country*, to critical acclaim.

Ms. Merritt has appeared on Austin City Limits, The Late Show with David Letterman, and The Tonight Show with Jay Leno. She also hosts her own artist-to-artist radio interview program, *The Spark with Tift Merritt*, airing monthly and also available as streaming audio on Marfa Public Radio's website.



photo credit: Eric Laignel

October 7, 2008

Dear Friends of the Arts:

I am delighted to welcome you to the 24th Annual Medal of Arts ceremony. What a wonderful opportunity the Raleigh Arts Commission provides to celebrate artistic excellence and extraordinary arts achievement in our community.

Tonight the City of Raleigh honors five individuals (Charles "Chuck" Davis, Susan Spurlin Newberry, Lucy Daniels, Lenard D. Moore, and Jeffrey H. Richardson) and one business, Capital Bank. All of the medal recipients have tirelessly worked to elevate the quality of life in our community, sharing their unique talents, resources, and cultural contributions to City of Oaks residents and visitors alike.



Raleigh, over the past few years, has appeared on many "top ten" lists, including: "Number One Best Place to Live in the U.S." (MSNBC, June 2008), "Number Two Best Place to Live, Work & Play" (Kiplinger's, July 2008) and "Number One Best Place for Business and Careers" (Forbes, March 2008). Our city's top-notch arts attractions have, in no small part, helped Raleigh achieve these high rankings, and continue to provide a rich diversity of cultural opportunities that will help shape the city's future growth and identity.

Congratulations, again, to tonight's six remarkable Medal of Arts recipients, and thank you for your support of the arts in Raleigh.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ch", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Charles Meeker
Mayor, City of Raleigh



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24th Annual Raleigh Medal of Arts Awards Ceremony

Tuesday, October 7, 2008

Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts, Fletcher Opera Theater

Performance	Selection from "A Chorus Line" Broadway Series South Student Ensemble
Welcome	Tift Merritt, Ceremony Host
Award Presentation	Capital Bank , Introduction by Lisa Grele Barrie Accepting Award: B. Grant Yarber, President and CEO
Performance	Al Batten and the Bluegrass Reunion
Award Presentation	Susan Spurlin Newberry , Introduction by Larry Nixon
Award Presentation	Lucy Daniels , Introduction by Melissa Peden
Remarks & Performance	Tift Merritt and Community Music School Honor Vocal Ensemble
Reading & Award Presentation	Lenard D. Moore , Introduction by Sally Buckner
Award Presentation	Jeffery H. Richardson , Introduction by Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler
Remarks	June Guralnick
Award Presentation	Dr. Charles "Chuck" Davis , Introduction by Lisbeth C. Evans
Performance	African American Dance Ensemble
Closing	Tift Merritt

Reception follows ceremony

Special thanks to award ambassadors
Brian Starkey and Laura Raynor.

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photo from Blue Sky and Red Earth

Capital Bank, headquartered in Raleigh, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Capital Bank Corporation, with 27 banking offices and approximately \$1.6 billion in total assets. The bank began operation on June 20, 1997, after a successful stock offering for a new bank in North Carolina.

The bank has continued to grow through its "Hometown Banking" strategy. A major component of this strategy involves nurturing local artistic communities. Under the leadership of President and CEO B. Grant Yarber, Capital Bank supports various Raleigh arts organizations through financial resources and participation. The bank also purchases and displays the work of local visual artists in its branches.

Examples of Capital Bank's support for the arts include, through fundraising and a public relations campaign, the launch of North Carolina Theatre's Capital Awards program in 2007 (in 2008, Capital Bank further increased its commitment to this important undertaking). In another creative partnership, Capital Bank provided the initial funding to recreate the North Carolina Symphony's popular *Blue Skies and Red Earth* concert series. The traveling program shares some of Raleigh's culture with other North Carolina communities.

Through its strong presence and generous financial support, Capital Bank continues to invest in the Raleigh cultural community.

"Capital Bank is a terrific example of the kind of philanthropic support that a city like Raleigh needs. We are all growing and expanding, and they make it possible for us to do what we do. It is clear when I talk to Capital Bank that they consider Raleigh to be their home — and that is important to me as well as our patrons. I feel like we are building this city together."

Frank Grebowski

General Director, Opera Company of North Carolina

"As an ever-present advocate for the arts in our community, Capital Bank understands the important correlation between a thriving business community and a well-supported performing and visual arts community. Quality of life issues – from a reasonable tax policy and excellent schools to a strong and prospering arts community – attract the best and brightest employee base. Having Capital Bank in our community makes us all better."

David Chambless Worters

President and CEO, North Carolina Symphony



photo credit: NCT Capital Awards

Susan Spurlin Newberry is the recent past Executive Director of the Piedmont Council of Traditional Music (PineCone). For the past 20 years, Ms. Newberry has tirelessly worked to bring traditional roots music to Raleigh audiences. She started with the organization in 1987 as its first full-time director.

Through her leadership, boundless vision, and perseverance, Ms. Newberry grew PineCone into the largest, most active traditional music organization in North Carolina. She brought stellar national and international acts to the Capital City, while remaining committed and loyal to the very best traditional local musicians. Over the years, Ms. Newberry cultivated new audiences for traditional music by programming high-quality acts and by broadening the range of music offered, reflecting the changing ethnic and racial makeup of North Carolina.

Ms. Newberry has been a leader in the traditional music field on the city, state, and regional levels. Through her establishment of strategic partnerships with Triangle-area organizations, her participation with regional presenting agencies, her vision establishing the Pinecone Bluegrass Show on WQDR-FM, and her launch of the North Carolina/Northern Ireland Exchange, Susan's two decades of work with PineCone has nurtured hundreds of artists. Recently retired, Ms. Newberry remains passionate and committed to the embrace of traditional folk arts in the Raleigh community.



photo credit: Jim White



photo credit: The News and Observer

"The vibrant traditional and roots music scene we currently enjoy is due, in large part, to Susan's pioneering and sustaining work at PineCone. Its evolution from an 'arts group' to a valued 'cultural institution' is a direct reflection of Susan's consummate professionalism, depth of knowledge of traditional music, exceptionally high quality standards, business acumen, motivational skills and perseverance during good times and bad times."

Michael Lowder

Executive Director, Artsplasure

"Through Susan's efforts, many Raleigh and Wake County residents had their first opportunities to attend performances by Emmylou Harris, Earl Scruggs and Alison Krauss, among others. Susan has a keen sense for artistry and was determined to bring outstanding musicians to our city. She understood and appreciated the variety of traditional music that exists in Raleigh, Wake County and the Eastern Piedmont region and has shown great dedication in making this heritage more visible."

Wayne Martin

Folklife Director, North Carolina Arts Council

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Lucy Daniels is a writer, psychologist and philanthropist. For more than 40 years, Ms. Daniels has actively worked to support, advocate and contribute to the arts. As founder of the Lucy Daniels Foundation and the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood, she has helped to influence and nurture thousands of individuals. The foundation has sponsored numerous conferences, lectures and exhibits fostering artists' emotional and creative freedom since 1989. Through the Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood, Ms. Daniels and her staff use psychoanalytic principles to help children and their families live healthy lives.

In addition to her foundation work, Ms. Daniels is a prolific literary artist. *Caleb, My Son*, the story of a father-son conflict associated with the Brown decision to end segregation, was published in several countries and won Daniels a Guggenheim Fellowship in literature. She has written several other best-selling novels, nonfiction works and short stories. In her 2002 memoir, *With a Woman's Voice: A Writer's Struggle for Emotional Freedom*, Ms. Daniels shared how she was able to overcome her past struggles with chronic anorexia and a debilitating writer's block.

Lucy Daniels has four children, seven grandchildren, and a miniature dachshund named Moonshine. Her work continues to motivate and inspire others to explore their own emotional complexities and creativity.





photo credit: The News and Observer

“Lucy Daniels has had a profound, lasting effect upon our community. Through her writing, philanthropy, teaching, and work with creative artists, she has enriched the lives of many Raleigh citizens. Her philanthropic efforts have enabled many Raleigh artists' organizations to flourish. From ballet to symphonic organizations, her contributions have generously assisted in helping these groups realize their goals and dreams....”

Tom Mann

Vice Chair, Lucy Daniels Foundation

“Lucy’s brave example helped me keep working when I hit a difficult patch in the novel I’m working on. I kept losing my nerve. What helped was having a copy of Lucy’s gutsy memoir *With a Woman’s Voice* beside me. About once an hour, I’d read Lucy’s book, and think: ‘If Lucy can do this....’ And I’d go back to writing until I needed another transfusion of courage. She helps writers go deeper.”

Peggy Payne

Writer

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Lenard D. Moore is a writer of poetry, drama, essays and literary criticism. His work has appeared in more than 350 publications, and he has been writing and publishing haiku for over 20 years. Mr. Moore recently won the Sam Ragan Fine Arts Award for his contribution to the arts in North Carolina.

In 2008, he became the first Southerner and the first African-American to be elected as President of the Haiku Society of America. Mr. Moore also serves as an editor and a guest editor for various other literary publications. The founder and executive director of the Carolina African American Writers' Collective as well as co-founder of the Washington Street Writers Group, his leadership includes serving as executive chairman of the North Carolina Haiku Society.

In addition to his involvement with arts organizations, Mr. Moore is an avid promoter of literature; he regularly teaches workshops, serves on panels, and offers readings at schools, festivals, colleges and universities. He is currently Assistant Professor of English at Mount Olive College.

Through his teachings, literary criticism and work as a mentor of young poets and writers, Mr. Moore nurtures the developing literary community. He infects others with his enthusiasm, energy and positive support of the arts.



photo credit: Dave Russo



photo credit: Curtis Dunlap

"Without a doubt, Lenard has contributed immensely to the literary canons of North Carolina, the nation and the world. He has also been instrumental in teaching and mentoring many emerging and professional writers.

Lenard's dedication to the arts community is great; his professional career embodies a lifetime of stellar service and contributions to the literary arts."

L. Teresa Church

Writer and Archivist, Carolina African American Writers' Collective

"Lenard is an excellent writer and has distinguished himself over and over with his books of poetry, his teaching, and his superb leadership, but more than that, he has a tremendous commitment to art and is always sharing that energy with others."

Marsha Warren

Former Director, North Carolina Writers' Network and the Paul Green Foundation

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Jeffery H. Richardson ("J.R.") is the band director at Needham B. Broughton High School. For the past 30 years, he has developed the band into its current makeup of an 185-member marching band, 65-member symphonic wind ensemble, 75-member concert band, two 19-member jazz ensembles, and a 20-member indoor winter guard. Over three decades, Mr. Richardson has instilled in his students a love and appreciation of music, as well as a commitment to community involvement.

Mr. Richardson has led the band in performances across the globe, including representing Raleigh at the annual Christmas parade, 2008 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, California, inaugural parades of two U.S. presidents, and the 2001 World Music Contest in Kerkrade, Holland.

Giving freely of his time and talents, he teaches music education at Underwood Elementary School and assists the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill's Marching Tar Heels. Mr. Richardson serves also on several arts organization boards and currently is chair of Theatre In The Park's "A Christmas Carol."

Mr. Richardson embodies exemplary dedication to music education, teaching his students that, "Excellence is a standard, not a goal."



photo credit: Shawn Rocco

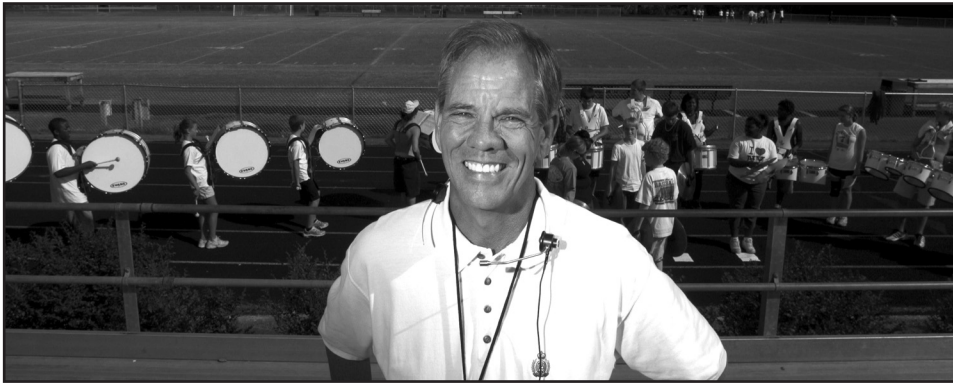


photo credit: Leslie Barbour

"Music induces in us a sense of the infinite and the contemplation of the invisible. Mr. Richardson has blessed this world - and our lives in particular - with this priceless gift. Perhaps even more importantly, he has become a beloved mentor to countless young people. His admonition to play the music, not the instrument, has lifted many a young and aspiring musician to heights they first thought unattainable."

Ira David Wood III

Executive Director, Theatre In The Park

"Throughout the past 30 years, J.R. has touched and enhanced the lives of thousands of students, their siblings and parents as he has introduced them to the inspiring marches of Sousa, the classical creations of Tchaikovsky and the big band era of Glenn Miller. J.R. and the band have been excellent ambassadors for Raleigh and Wake County with their involvement in so many successful local, national and international engagements. J.R. has provided so many opportunities for our young leaders of tomorrow and more importantly has taught our students much more than music and arts. He has taught them valuable life lessons."

Mike Barnes

President, Broughton High School Band Boosters

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Charles “Chuck” Davis is the founder and artistic director of the African American Dance Ensemble. Since 1980, Dr. Davis has led the Ensemble to become one of the premier dance companies touring the world today. Dr. Davis trained at Howard University and refined his technique under the guidance of Eleo Pomare, Babatunde Olatunji and Thelma Hill. Based on this training, he established the Chuck Davis Dance Company and launched DanceAfrica – an annual celebration of African and African American dance. He is a past faculty member of the American Dance Festival and as a choreographer and director, Dr. Davis has developed many important dance works.

Appointed by the Governor to serve on the Board of the North Carolina Arts Council in 1991, Dr. Davis chairs the Dance Grants panel. He is a recipient of the New York Bessie Award, the Brooklyn Academy of Music Award for Distinguished Service, the North Carolina Dance Alliance Award, Artist of the Year Award by Dance USA, the Capezio Dance Award, and the North Carolina Award in Fine Arts - the highest honor bestowed in the arts in our state.

A skilled teacher and choreographer of traditional African dance, Dr. Davis, through his instruction, inspiration and performances, has led thousands of Americans, and the Raleigh community, to understand and appreciate this unique part of our culture.



"A national treasure and a cultural icon, Chuck has never forgotten his hometown roots. For many years, he has worked on a variety of artistic projects in the Raleigh community. The consistent and most significant contribution is one of genuine diversity – where participants achieve an in-depth appreciation for one another through the study of traditional African-American dance. When he is not here inspiring area students, he takes Raleigh all over the world – with 'Peace, Love and Respect for Everybody'."

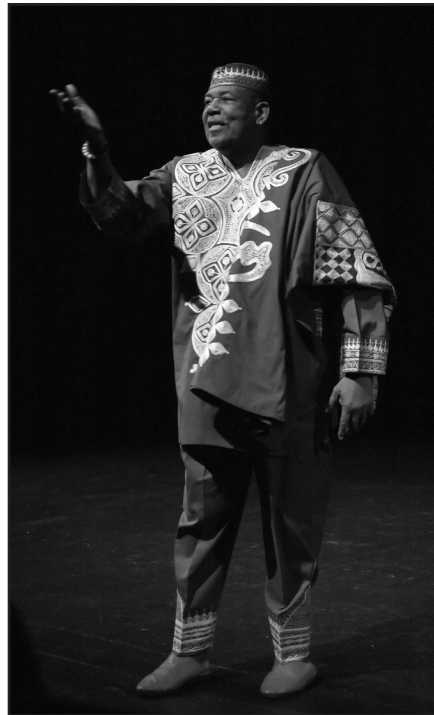
Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler

Senior Administrator for Arts Education, Wake County Public School System

"'Baba' Chuck Davis is a mythical figure of grand proportion, all 6 feet 5 inches of him.

From the beginning, he has used African dance to tuck vulnerable and at risk people under his abundantly loving and disciplined wings. He rescues those who might otherwise have no hope. He formed his first company with undisciplined dancers from the Durham community, above the doubts, the prejudice and the lack of funds, creating success where none was expected, and shaping them into a company that grew into international importance. He makes us all feel more than we are, bigger than we are, as if we too could be up there dancing and singing and chanting with his exuberant company."

Linda Belans
Dance Writer



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Performers (Before and After Ceremony)

Enloe Flute Ensemble

The Enloe Flute Ensemble consists of flute students from the high school band program. These students volunteer to perform with the ensemble and represent some of the finest high school woodwind players in North Carolina. Enloe Magnet High School has the largest and most comprehensive arts program in the Wake County public school system.

Broughton High School Jazz Band

The Needham B. Broughton High School Jazz Ensemble I is one of two jazz ensembles at the school. Because the daily instructional schedule allows Broughton to have two jazz groups, this ensemble, comprised mainly of juniors and seniors, meets during the school day and allows the members to concentrate on big band music and the infusion jazz sound of today.

Performers (During Ceremony)

The Broadway Series South Student Ensemble

In 2002 Broadway Series South began supporting local students in a production of *Les Miserables*, and subsequently sponsored (in 2006) Elton John/Tim Rice's *Aida* and in 2007 a restaging of *Les Miserables*. The purpose of this partnership is to provide students and teachers with an opportunity to study and participate in large-scale musicals that would not typically be performed. The city supports this opportunity by bringing in professionals who have a direct connection with Broadway. This year Wake County students worked directly with Broadway stars Terrence Mann and his wife Charlotte D'Amboise on *A Chorus Line*. At the Medal of Arts ceremony, students will perform the musical's finale, *One Singular Sensation*.





Al Batten and the Bluegrass Reunion

Al Batten and the Bluegrass Reunion have been playing bluegrass and traditional music since 1972. The band has played at bluegrass festivals throughout the East Coast, and have been invited to appear at the Appalachian Bluegrass Music and Folk Festival in Omagh, Ireland. Recently, the group performed on a tour with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. They are longtime members of The Eastern North Carolina Bluegrass Music Association, PineCone, and Banjo in the Hollow. The band includes Al Batten on banjo, David Turnage on guitar, Johnny Ridge on fiddle, Phil Patterson on bass, and Mike Aldridge on mandolin.

Community Music School Honor Vocal Ensemble, conducted by Waltje Rasulala

Community Music School is committed to providing economically disadvantaged children with hands-on experience and education in music and the arts. For only \$1 per week, a child is paired with a professional teacher for 30 minutes of private instruction. Instruments are provided for student use. Since 1994, Community Music School has involved over one thousand at-risk youth.

African American Dance Ensemble

The Ensemble's mission is to preserve and share the finest traditions of African and African American dance and music through research, education and entertainment. Nine musicians and dancers under the leadership of Artistic Director Charles ("Chuck") Davis celebrate traditional African culture through dramatic staging, exciting rhythms, masterful choreography and colorful costumes.

P R E S E N T E R S

In Order of Appearance:

Lisa Grele Barrie,

Managing Director of the North Carolina Theatre

Larry Nixon,

Host, PineCone Bluegrass Show, WQDR-FM

Melissa Peden,

Community arts advocate; past Medal of Arts recipient

Sally Buckner,

Writer and Editor; past Medal of Arts recipient

June Guralnick,

Executive Director of the Raleigh Arts Commission

Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler,

*Senior Administrator for Arts Education, Wake County Public Schools;
past Medal of Arts recipient*

Lisbeth C. Evans,

Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources



Eric McRay, featured artist for the 2008 Medal of Arts, is a full-time artist best known for his jazz paintings and depictions of the North Carolina landscape.

Recently, Mr. McRay had the opportunity to demonstrate his artistic abilities on a local public television program, *Paint, Paper and Crafts*. Mr. McRay is represented by several galleries throughout North Carolina and has been featured in *Southern Living*, *Fortune Small Business* and several other regional magazines. His jazz paintings are currently on display in the gift room of the U.S. Embassy in Denmark through the Art in Embassies program.

Mr. McRay participates frequently in local charity fundraisers and performs community outreach by working with arts councils throughout North Carolina. His studio is located in Artspace. For more information about Mr. McRay and his artwork, please visit www.mcraystudios.com.

E R I C M C R A Y

CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Mayor Charles Meeker
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Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler
Lou Johanson
Joyce Watkins King
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Raleigh Arts Commission

P.O. Box 590, Raleigh, NC 27602
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www.raleighnc.gov/arts



Special Thanks

Awards Ceremony

John McIlwee.....	Creative Director, Announcer
Brian Williams.....	Video Director
Elizabeth Grimes-Droessler	Technical Director
Belva Parker.....	Show Coordinator
William Brown.....	Technical Support
Mette Schladweiler.....	Stage Manager
Waltye Rasulala.....	Show Advisor, Announcer
Laura Raynor.....	Reception Advisor
Carol Mallette.....	Reception Advisor
Joyce Watkins King.....	Reception Décor
Lou Johanson.....	Reception Décor

Progress Energy Center for the Performing Arts Staff

Paul Marsland.....	Production Supervisor
Joe Medlin.....	Production Supervisor
Kendra Giles.....	Centerplate Catering
Allen Puryear.....	Event Coordinator
Russell Denton.....	Maintenance Supervisor
Holly Jacques.....	Booking Coordinator

Additional Thanks

NCSU Theatre students, Teresa Pigeon, Community Music School, May Bensen, Askew Taylor Paint and Art Supplies, Lucy Daniels Center for Early Childhood.

Many thanks to all the evening's presenters, volunteers and announcers!



Artist of Tomorrow Scholarship

The Raleigh Arts Commission is delighted to announce the establishment of the Artist of Tomorrow Scholarship. The scholarship, funded solely through donations, will be awarded annually to a high school senior pursuing a career in the arts.

An envelope is provided in your program for your generous contribution. Thank you for supporting young people's education and advancement in the field of arts!



photo from Block Gallery 2007 "Quick Critter Draw"

PAST MEDAL OF ARTS RECIPIENTS

1984

Geraldine Cate
Willie Jordan-Williams
John Lambert
James A. McLean
Northern Telecom Inc.
Robert Petters
Ira David Wood III
Anna Wooten-Hawkins

1985

Artplosure
Henry Bowers
Capitol Broadcasting Co.
James M. Marshall
Beth Cummings Paschal
George M. Stephens

1986

Cablevision of Raleigh
DeAnn Jones
Paul Montgomery
Waltye Rasulala
Addison Reed
Theatre In The Park

1987

Horace Caple
Jo Cresimore
Friends of the College
Phyllis Garriss
Peggy Hoffman
Lemma Mackie
Ira David Wood III

1988

Abram Kanoff
Suzanne Newton
Raleigh Fine Arts Society
Literary Contest
Henry Vermillion
J. Perry Watson
David Witherspoon
Peyton Woodson III

1989

Arts Together
Douglas Haas Bennett
Sally Buckner
Rebecca Gill
Betty Kovach
James E. Longmire
Ben F. Williams
Albert D. Wolfheimer

1990

Betsy Blair
Paul B. Conway
James A. Crawford
Margot Richter
Thomas E. Sibley
Raleigh Little Theatre
Raleigh Symphony
Orchestra

1991

Joel Adams
Artspace
Charlotte Brown
Joe Cox
Dick Gable
Raleigh Chamber Music Guild
Raleigh Music Club
Scholarships
Raleigh Oratorio Society
Ann Smith
Dick Snavelly
WCPE

1992

George Bireline
Center Stage at NCSU
Stewart Theatre
The Raleigh Boychoir
Bob Rankin
Nona Short
The Woman's Club of
Raleigh Arts Festival

1993

Gerald Barrax
City Gallery of
Contemporary Art
James Goodman
Mary Anne K. Jenkins
Bill Tilton
Inge Witt

1994

McCrae Hardy
John McIlwee
Raleigh Fine Arts Society

1995

The Crafts Center
Elizabeth Grimes Droessler
The Fletcher School of
Performing Arts
Ward Purrington

1996

Bonnie Brooks
City Gallery of
Contemporary Art
Kaye Gibbons
Raleigh Ensemble Players
Mary Ann Scherr
Dr. Alfred E. Sturgis
Don Wilder

1997

NC Museum of Art
Visual Art Exchange
Gerhardt Zimmermann

1998

Community Music School
Elaine A. Lorber
Meredith College
Martha N. Zaytoun

1999

Arts Access
Anita Burroughs-Price
Thomas H. Sayre

2000

Robin Harris
K.D. Kennedy
Dr. Assad Meymandi

2001

William Brown

2002

Even Exchange
Dance Theatre
Hugh Partridge
Lawrence Wheeler

2003

Lope Max Diaz
Lanette Lind
Thomas McGuire
Melissa Peden

2004

Lee Hansley
Hillyer Community Chorus
Robert Weiss
NC Museum of Art Docents
Jane Elizabeth
Williamson Teague

2005

Karen Edwards
Anne Roberts Packer
Dr. Randall "Randy" Foy

2006

North Carolina Symphony
North Carolina Theatre
Rory Parnell
Melissa Podcasny
Progress Energy
The Raleigh Ringers

RALEIGH ARTS COMMISSION

The Raleigh Arts Commission was established in 1977 and proudly holds the distinction of being the first municipal arts commission created in North Carolina. Serving as the official advisory body and advocate for the arts to the City Council for the past three decades, the Commission has been dedicated to the ongoing goal of connecting people to the arts and building a vital and ever-expanding creative community for Capital City residents and artists.

The Arts Commission, primarily funded by City Council, directly allocates most of its funds to arts organizations based in Raleigh. Thirty-nine grants were approved for 2008-2009; these grants help organizations present hundreds of diverse performances, festivals and events. Over the past 20 years, the Arts Commission has allocated over \$17 million dollars to cultural groups in Raleigh.

The Commission uses the remainder of its funds to support local arts projects and to promote culture in Raleigh. Activities include public art projects such as *Red Wolf Ramble*, Art-in-the-Park sculptures (including *Redbird* in Fletcher Park and *Glimpses of The Promised Land* in Chavis Park) and the Commission's most recent temporary art project in collaboration with Capital Area Transit, *Art-On-The-Move* (original art featured on the sides of city buses). *Art-On-The-Move 2* will roll out in 2009!

The Commission also supports a range of other arts programs, including the annual Medal of Arts Awards, which recognize lifetime extraordinary artistic achievement and support; Block Gallery exhibitions, connecting local artists to community through exhibitions and public outreach in the municipal building; art purchases for the city's permanent collection; and the dissemination of information on arts activities and issues through the Artsbeat newsletter and other publications. In 2008, the Commission announced a new venture, the Piedmont Poet Laureate program, dedicated to building a literary bridge for area residents to come together and celebrate the art of writing. In partnership with Durham Arts Council, Orange County Arts Commission, and United Arts Council of Raleigh & Wake County, the first Laureate will soon be selected for 2009.

We invite you to join us in the coming months as we work to transform the "City of Oaks" into the "City of the Arts"!

For more information about Raleigh Arts Commission programs, please visit www.raleighnc.gov/arts or contact Belva.parker@ci.raleigh.nc.us.

DECLARATION OF RALEIGH ARTS

We, the representatives of the cultural organizations of the Capital City of the State of North Carolina, in support of this pledge of allegiance to the Arts, do hereby proclaim, in one unified voice, that we believe the Arts in Raleigh:

ENTERTAIN our community by offering exciting performances, festivals, readings, exhibitions and arts-related events for the public's enjoyment;

EDUCATE our community by fostering a deeper understanding of what it means to be human;

ENRICH our community by fueling economic growth and attracting tourists and new business to the area;

EMBOLDEN our community by establishing a dynamic environment for artists to create, learn and grow;

ELEVATE our community by inspiring meaningful arts experiences that encourage connection among individuals, groups and the city at large;

ENLIGHTEN our community by embracing a multitude of opinions and viewpoints, the cornerstones of a democratic society;

ENLIVEN our community by providing culturally diverse experiences for residents and visitors;

ENGAGE our community by developing cultural opportunities for personal growth and strengthened family bonds;

ENHANCE our community by increasing understanding, appreciation and communication among global citizens;

ENERGIZE our community by shaping a positive city identity in the local, regional, national and international arenas; and

ENVISION our community by supporting the building of a livable and attractive city, and a revitalized downtown.

The Declaration of Raleigh Arts was signed by 46 Raleigh cultural organizations on October 11, 2007.

